



Wednesday, December 25, 2024
Christmas Day – 10:30 am
St. Paul's Anglican Church, Uxbridge



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Land Acknowledgement

It is a great privilege to gather, share stories of faith and worship God on this beautiful territory, which we now know as Township of Uxbridge but which has been the site of human activity – and therefore storytelling and worship – for many thousands of years. We wish to honour the ancestral guardians of this land and its waterways: the Huron-Wendat, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, the Mississauga and Chippewa (Anishinaabe) people. The treaties that were signed for this particular parcel of land are collectively referred to as the Williams Treaties of 1923. Today many Indigenous peoples, including the Metis Nation continue to call this land home and act as its stewards, and this responsibility extends to all peoples, to share and care for this land for generations to come.

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. **And also with you.**

Collect for Purity

Almighty God, **to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Gloria

Celebrant:

All:

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated

at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer, receive, receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most high, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the Glory of God the Father. Amen.

Kyrie Eleison	Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.	Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
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Collect of the Day

Almighty God, you wonderfully created and yet more wonderfully restored our human nature. May we share the divine life of your Son Jesus Christ, who humbled himself to share our humanity, and now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7

Reader: A Reading from the Book of Isaiah

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness - on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this. *(Isaiah 9:2-7)*

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

Psalm 96 (said responsively)

Reader: Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.

People: Sing to the Lord and bless his name; proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.

Reader: Declare his glory among the nations and his wonders among all peoples.

People: **For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; he is more to be feared than all gods.**

Reader: As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but it is the Lord who made the heavens.

People: **Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! Oh, the power and the splendour of his sanctuary!**

Reader: Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; ascribe to the Lord honour and power.

People: **Ascribe to the Lord the honour due his name; bring offerings and come into his courts.**

Reader: Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; let the whole earth tremble before him.

People: **Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is King! he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity."**

Reader: Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

People: **Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the Lord when he comes, when he comes to judge the earth.**

Reader: He will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with his truth.

Second Reading: Titus 2:11-14

Reader: A Reading from the Letter of Paul to Titus

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds. *(Titus 2:11-14)*

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel: Luke 2:1-20

Reader: The Lord be with you

People: **And also with you**

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

People: **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see - I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!" When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. *(Luke 2:1-20)*

Reader: The Gospel of Christ

People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Homily

The Apostles' Creed

Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Confession and Absolution

Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes sinners

and invites them to his table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

May the peace of the risen Christ be with you! **And also with you!**

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

The Prayer over the Gifts

God of peace, your Son Jesus Christ has reconciled us to you. May all we offer you today renew us as members of your household. We ask this in his name. **Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer 3

The Lord be with you

And also with you

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, who in the mystery of his incarnation was made perfect man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; in him we have seen a new and radiant vision of your glory. Therefore with all the angels of heaven, we lift our voices and sing our joyful hymn of praise to proclaim the glory of your name.

Sanctus Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the Highest.

We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation; in calling Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son.

For in these last days, you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made

us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, a death he freely accepted, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, Father, according to his command, **we remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory**

and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all, presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ and his blood of the new covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we, made acceptable in him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new, and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

As Jesus taught us, we pray together

Our Father, who art in heaven ...

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.

All: **God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life.**

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the people of God.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Agnus Dei **Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.**

Communion

Prayer after Communion

Father of all, the child born for us is the Saviour of the world. May he who made us your children welcome us into your kingdom, where he is alive and reigns with you now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Doxology

Glory to God, whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Blessing

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the risen Lord.
Thanks be to God.

CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL FLOWERS

*In loving memory of **Marie Collyer** by Gerry Collyer*

*In loving memory of **George & Elinor Taylor** by Dorothy Haines*

*In loving memory of **Audrey Taylor** by Sharon Taylor & family*

*In loving memory of **Paul Tratnik** by Sharon Taylor & family*

*In loving memory of **David Carroll and Roland & Evaleen Hudson** by Kathleen Carroll*

*In loving memory of **Merilyn Woods** by The Woods Family*

*In loving memory of **Robert Pogue & other loved ones** by Evelyn & Susan Pogue*

*In memory of **loved ones** by Beth Crook*

*In memory of **loved ones** by Shelagh Carroll & Brian Logan*